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## Christopher Prendergast To Address Honors Convocation at Illinois Wesleyan

April 1, 2005

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Christopher Prendergast, professor of sociology at Illinois Wesleyan University, will receive the 2005 Pantagraph Award for Teaching Excellence and will present the principal speech at the University's annual Honors Day Convocation on Wednesday, April 13.

The convocation will be held at 11 a.m. in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall (1210 Park St., Bloomington). It is free and open to the public.

Illinois Wesleyan students will be recognized for a variety of academic honors as part of the convocation.

Prendergast's speech is entitled "Cultural Capital: Intellectual Traditions and the Liberal Arts."

A member of the Illinois Wesleyan faculty since 1985, Prendergast received his bachelor's degree from Brooklyn College of The City University of New York. He went on to earn his master's and Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University.

Prendergast's research interests are both classical and contemporary sociological theory, philosophy of science, urban sociology, and social organization and stratification. He teaches courses in the History of Social Thought, Social Organization, Community and Urban Society, and American Social Institutions Today.

The \$1,000 teacher-scholar award is Illinois Wesleyan's top teaching honor. The honoree is selected by the University's Promotion and Tenure Committee based on nominations received from members of the faculty. The award recognizes teaching, scholarship, and service. The 2006 winner will be announced during the convocation.